

QUESTIONS

PROPER FOR

STUDENTS in DIVINITY,
CANDIDATES of the MINISTRY,
and YOUNG CHRISTIANS.

To be proposed to them by them-
selves, or by others.

Divided into Six CLASSES, 1

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| I. Questions of serious importance for Students in Divinity, frequently to put to their own Consciences. | ly to put to themselves, chiefly borrow'd from the Epistles to <i>Timothy</i> and <i>Titus</i> . |
| II. Questions in the Doctrines of Divinity, proper to be proposed to Students at their Examination, in order to preach. | V. Questions, by which young Persons may be taught to examine themselves, both as to their <i>Christian</i> Knowledge and their Spiritual State. |
| III. Practical and Casuistical Questions for Candidates of the Ministry. | VI. Questions relating to Baptism, and the Lord's Supper and Fellowship with a <i>Christian</i> Church. |
| IV. Questions proper for young Ministers frequent- | |

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QUESTIONS

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I. Questions of serious Importance for Students in Divinity, frequently to put to their own Consciences.

WHAT was my great Design in devoting myself to study for the Ministry, and what is my daily View and Purpose in pursuing it?

Have I entirely given up myself to our Lord *Jesus Christ* as a Christian, that I may be fitter to become a faithful Minister?

Do I every Day seek Direction and Blessing from God in all my Studies for this end?

In labouring after Knowledge in humane Sciences, do I always make the Service of *Christ* in the Ministry my supreme Design, either that I may be better fitted for it, or better accepted in it?

1. *Serious Questions for*

Do I pursue my Studies daily, as one that must give an Account of my Time and of all my Advantages?

Note, These two Questions, put close to the Heart, will guard Students against Idleness, or against wasting too much of their Time in any favourite human Study.

How many Hours have I spent this Day in Study, or for the Pursuit of Knowledge, allowing that great Maxim, *Benè Orasse est bene Studuisse*. To pray well is to study well?

Do I pursue Practical Divinity as well as the Knowledge of Doctrines and Controversies?

Am I solicitous that my Soul may grow in Grace, by every increasing Degree of Christian Knowledge, that so I may preach to others what my own Soul has known by Experience?

Do I chuse my Company by their Seriousness, as well as by their Ingenuity and Learning?

Do I take constant Care to avoid all Company which may be dangerous to my Morals or to my Studies?

Have

Students to ask themselves. 5

Have I been in any Company this Week or this Day, whereby I have gotten any good myself, or done any good to others?

Have I indulged myself in any Thing this Week, or this Day, whereby my Soul has been put out of Frame for Evening Worship?

Have I suffer'd nothing to carry away my Heart from God, so as to make me neglect Devotion, or perform it in a slight or careless Manner?

Do I watch against all evil Appetites and Passions, and endeavour to subdue them early, that I may be fitter to teach others to do it?

Do I ever take any proper Occasion in my Discourse to make some Essay towards the Conversion or Edification of Souls, as Preparatories for my future Ministry?

II. Questions in the Doctrines of Divinity proper to be proposed to Students in their Examination, in order to preach.

WHAT Arguments have you to prove the Existence of God? and the Creation of the World by him?

How are his various Perfections to be demonstrated, *viz.* His Eternity, his Unity, his Immutability, his Power, Wisdom, Goodness, Truth, &c?

How is the Light of Nature proved insufficient to give solid Hope to sinful Creatures, and the Light of Grace or Divine Revelation necessary?

How are the Scriptures evidenced to be the Word of God, both the Old Testament and the New?

How can you prove the faithful Conveyance of them to our Age?

Was Man at first created Righteous and

and Holy, and what are the Proofs of it?

What was the Covenant of Works under which Man was created at first?

How is the Fall of *Adam*, the first Man, proved to reach his Posterity? or what are the Evidences of original Sin imputed, and original Sin inherent?

What is the Covenant of Grace? or what way of Salvation has God appointed for fallen Man?

Who, or what is *Jesus Christ* our Saviour?

How doth it appear that *Christ* is both God and Man; or that he is true Man in ineffable Union with the true and *eternal* God?

What are the Transactions assign'd to God the Father in the Covenant of Grace?

What is the Doctrine of Predestination, or of Election of Persons to Salvation? and how may it be proved?

How do you prove the *Messiah* is come; and that *Jesus Christ* is the true *Messiah*?

What are the Characters and Offices assigned

8 II. *Doctrinal Questions, &c.* for assigned to *Christ* in this Covenant of Grace; or what are the Ways whereby he saves Sinners?

In what Sense are *Adam* and *Christ* the general Heads of Death and Life?

What is the Covenant of Redemption made with *Christ*, before the Foundation of the World?

Who, or what is the Spirit of God?

How may his Deity be proved?

What Offices are assigned to the Holy Spirit in this Covenant of Grace?

What are the several Dispensations of the Covenant of Grace, *viz.* To *Adam*, *Noah*, *Abraham*, *Moses*?

What were the chief Emblems or Seals under these several Dispensations?

What were the chief Designs of the *Mosaical* Covenant, or God's Dispensation towards the *Jews*?

What is prefigured by several of the chief Types, *viz.* The High-Priest, the Tabernacle, the Sacrifices, the Washings, the Incense, the promis'd Land, &c.

How is the Divine Commission of *Moses* to be proved?

Was the *Mosaical* Covenant, a Covenant

venant of Works, or a Covenant of Grace? or was it neither? or was it both?

What was the Design of so many *Prophets* coming after *Moses*, since they instituted no new Religion?

What is the true Account or Description of the Gospel, as revealed by *Christ*? or what is the Christian Dispensation?

How is the Divine Commission of our Lord *Jesus Christ* proved? what are the internal and external Evidences of Christianity?

What are the several States through which *Christ* passed in the Execution of his various Offices?

Of what Uses are the Incarnation, Life and Death, the Resurrection and Glorification of *Christ*, in our Religion?

What are the chief Differences between the Covenant of Works and the Covenant of Grace?

What are the chief Differences between the *Jewish* Dispensation and the *Christian* Dispensation?

What are the Blessings promised in
the

10 II. *Doctrinal Questions, &c. for*
the Covenant of Grace? *viz.* Regeneration, Vocation, Justification, Adoption, Sanctification, Perseverance, and Glorification: And how are they described?

What are Sinners to do, in order to partake of the Blessings of the Gospel?

How would you describe Faith in *Christ*, Repentance towards God, and sincere Obedience, or universal Holiness in the plainest Manner?

What are our chief Duties to God, to our Neighbour, and ourselves? Here will come in all the *single* or *personal* Vertues of Temperance, Patience, &c. the *social* Vertues of Love, Justice, Truth, Faithfulness, &c. as well as the *divine* Virtues of Godliness, &c.

What are our Duties to Superiors, to Inferiors and to Equals? Here will come in the Duties of a Magistrate, a Father, a Master, &c. a Subject, a Child, a Servant, &c. a Neighbour, a Friend, a Brother, &c.

What are the chief Motives to engage us to practise these Duties, drawn from Reason, and from Scripture?

What

Candidates of the Ministry. 11

What are the chief Parts of Divine Worship?

What is Prayer? and in whose Name, and by whose Aid must it be performed?

When may Forms of Prayer be lawful, and when hurtful?

Is there any *Sabbath*, or a Day of Rest and Worship continued under the Gospel? and how is it proved?

What are the *Christian* Sacraments? Are they Signs, or Seals, or both?

What is the Nature and Design of *Christian* Baptism?

May Infants be baptised? and why?

Is Immersion of the whole Body necessary?

Is the Lord's-Supper an expiatory Sacrifice? Or is it meerly a Memorial of *Christ's* Death? Or is it rather a Sign and Seal of the Covenant of Grace?

Is it to be administer'd to Persons *who* make a meer verbal Profession of *Christ*, without some Evidences of Conversion and Repentance?

What is the Church of *Christ* both Invisible and Visible? Universal and Particular?

In

12 II. *Doctrinal Questions, &c. for*

In what manner is a visible Church to be formed and governed in general? and what are the chief Officers in it?

How are the Members of the Church to be punished, if they are refractory against the Community, or against the Laws of *Christ*?

What will be the Conclusion of all these Dispensations of God towards Men?

How may the last Judgment-Day be proved as a thing certain?

How is the Resurrection of the Body to be evidenced?

Does the Soul sleep at Death till the Resurrection? Or does it immediately enter into a State of Happiness or Misery?

What are the chief Glories of Heaven? or what is the final Happiness of the Saints?

What are the chief Parts of the Misery of the Wicked in the World to come?

What are the chief Proofs of the Eternity of future Rewards and Punishments?

And indeed under every one of these Heads, 'tis proper to enquire what are the chief Scriptures that are used to prove these Doctrines.

III.

III. Practical and Casuistical Questions for Candidates of the Ministry, and young Preachers.

IN what manner would you address stupid Sinners in order to awaken them to a Sense of their Sin and Danger, by Reason and by Scripture?

How would you convince a sober Man that he has no sufficient Righteousness of his own to justify him before God, by Reason and by Scripture?

What Directions would you give one that is awaken'd to a Sense of Sin, and begins to enquire the Way of Salvation?

By what Motives would you excite and hasten delaying Sinners to secure their eternal State?

What Encouragements would you give to one who is overwhelmed with a Sense of the Greatness, the Multitude and Aggravation of his Sins, in order to keep him from Despair?

How would you represent *Christ* as answering all the Wants of perishing Sinners?

B

What

What would you say to a Person who neglects Religion from a Pretence that 'tis in vain to seek after Happiness, if he is not elected?

Brady

How would you treat young Persons to draw them to Religion, by considering their pious Education, and their early Baptism?

How would you guard young Creatures against the Danger of evil Company?

In what Manner would you direct Persons who complain of the Power and Prevalence of special Sins or Temptations?

By what Methods would you fortify Youth against Shame and Scoffing, when they resolve upon Religion in good earnest?

What Sort of Persuasions would you use to lead a Person to publick Worship, who complains he finds no Benefit by it?

Adams

How would you excite negligent Persons, who are in Years, to take care of their Souls and their eternal Interest?

Brabant

What would you say to encourage those who are diligent in the Practice of Religion, but complain they feel no Pleasure in it?

How

How would you comfort serious Christians under Darkness, who fear God is departed from them?

How may Persons be recover'd who have back-slidden from the Practices of Piety, and are grown careless?

How would you support those who are under long outward Trials, and encourage them to persevere in Patience?

What would you say to relieve the Sorrows of those who are mourning under some present huge Affliction?

How would you persuade those who quarrel to be reconciled? and particularly such as differ about Principles and Opinions in Religion?

How may warm passionate Persons be directed to subdue their Passions?

What encouragement would you give to timorous Christians against the Fears of dying?

How would you prepare doubting Christians for approaching Death?

Perhaps it might not be an improper Exercise for Students in the last Part of their Academical Studies to write *Letters of Christian Advice* to Persons under

16 IV. *Practical Questions for*

all these Circumstances, or at least to write down Answers to all these Enquiries, to be perused and corrected by their Tutors.

IV. Questions proper for young Ministers frequently to put to themselves, chiefly borrowed from the Epistles to *Timothy* and *Titus*.

SECT. I. *Of Faithfulness in the Ministry.*

DO I sincerely give myself to the Ministry of the Word, Acts vi. 4. and do I design to make it the chief Business of my Life to serve *Christ* in his Gospel, in order to the Salvation of Men?

Do I resolve thro' the Aids of Divine Grace to be faithful to him who hath put me into the Ministry, and to take heed to the Ministry which I have received of the Lord that I may fulfil it? 1 Tim. i. 12. Col. iv. 17.

Do I honestly and faithfully endeavour

Preachers to ask themselves. 17

vour by Study and Prayer to know the Truth as it is in Jesus? Eph. iv. 21. and do I seek my Instruction chiefly from the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make me wise unto Salvation thro' the Faith that is in Christ, that I may be thoroughly furnished unto every good Word and Work? 2 Tim. iii. 14, 17.

Do I hold fast the Form of sound Words, as far as I have learnt them of Christ and his Apostles, 2 Tim. i. 13. That I may by sound Doctrine exhort and convince Gainsayers? Tit. i. 9. and do I determine to continue in the Things which I have learned, knowing from whom I have learned them? 2 Tim. iii. 14.

Do I resolve to give the People the true Meaning of Christ in his Word, so far as I can understand it, and not to handle the Word of God deceitfully, but by Manifestation of the Truth commend myself to every Man's Conscience in the Sight of God, 2 Cor. iv. 2.

Am I watchful to avoid prophane and vain Babblings, 1 Tim. vi. 20. and do I take care to shun foolish Questions which do gender Strife, and disputing about

18 IV. *Practical Questions for*

Words which are to no profit, but the Subversion of the Hearers? 2 Tim. ii. 14, 23.

Do I study to shew myself approved unto God, rightly dividing the Word of Truth? 2 Tim. ii. 15. giving to every one, viz. to Saints and Sinners, their proper Portion?

Do I make it my Business to testify to all Men, whether Jews or Greeks, the Necessity of Repentance towards God, and Faith in Christ Jesus; and that there is no other Name under Heaven given whereby we may be saved; making this Gospel of Christ the Subject of my Ministry? Acts xx. 21. Acts iv. 12.

Do I constantly affirm, that those who have believed in Christ Jesus, should maintain good Works, and follow after Holiness without which no Man shall see the Lord? Tit. iii. 8. Heb. xii. 14.

Do I teach those that hear me to observe all that Christ has commanded us, nor shun to declare to them at proper Seasons, the whole Counsel of God? Acts xx. 27.

Do I preach to the People not myself, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and myself as their Servant for Christ's Sake? 2 Cor. iv. 5.

Do

Do I in my Study and my Preaching take heed to my *Doctrine* and my Exhortations, so that I may save myself and them that hear me? 1 Tim. iv. 16.

Do I watch over the Souls of Men as one that must give an Account, being solicitous that I may do it with Joy and not with Grief? Heb. xiii. 17.

SECT. II. *Of Diligence in the Ministry.*

Do I give attendance to Reading, Meditation and Study? Do I read a due Portion of Scripture daily, especially in the New Testament, and that in the Greek Original, that I may be better acquainted with the Meaning of the Word of God? 1 Tim. iv. 13.

Do I apply myself to these Things, and give myself wholly to them, that my profiting may appear to all? 1 Tim. iv. 15.

Do I live constantly as under the Eye of the great Shepherd, who is my Master and my final Judge; and so spend my Hours as to be able to give up a good Account of them at last to him?

Do

20 IV. *Practical Questions for*

Do I not neglect to stir up any of those Gifts which God has given me for the Edification of the Church? 1 Tim. iv. 14. and 2 Tim. i. 6.

Do I seek, as far as possible, to know the State and the Wants of my Auditory, that I may speak a Word in Season? Esa. l. 4.

Is it my chief Design in chusing my Subject and composing my Sermon to edify the Souls of Men?

Am I determined to take all proper Opportunities to preach the Word, in Season and out of Season, i. e. in the ParLOUR, or the Kitchen, or the Workhouse, as well as in the Pulpit; and seek Opportunities to speak a Word for Christ, and help forward the Salvation of Souls? 2 Tim. iv. 2.

Do I labour to shew my Love to our Lord Jesus by feeding the Sheep and the Lambs of his Flock, John xxi. 16, 17.

Am I duly sollicitous for the Success of my Ministry? and do I take all proper Methods to enquire what Effects my Ministry has had on the Souls of those who hear me?

Where

Where I find or hope the Work of Grace is begun on the Soul, am I zealous and diligent to promote it?

SECT. III. *Of constant Prayer and Dependance.*

Do I give myself to Prayer, as well as to the Ministry of the Word? Acts vi. 4.

Do I make Conscience of praying daily in Secret, that I may hereby maintain holy Converse with God, and also that I may increase in the Gift of Prayer, Matth. vi. 6.

Do I make it my practise to offer Prayers, Supplications and Intercessions for all Men, particularly for our Rulers, and for my Fellow-Labourers in the Ministry, and for the Church of Christ, and especially for those to whom I preach? 1 Tim. ii. 1. Rom. i. 9, 10. Phil. i. 4.

Do I seek by Prayer for Divine Direction and Assistance in my Studies, and in all my Preparations for the Publick? and do I plead for the Success of my Ministry with God, in whom are all our Springs? Eph. iii. 14, &c. Phil. i. 8, 9.

Do

22 IV. *Practical Questions for*

Do I ever keep upon my Spirit a deep Sense of my own *Insufficiency for these Things*, that I may ever depend and wait on the Power of *Christ* for Aid and Success? 2 Cor. ii. 16. & iii. 5. & 2 Tim. ii. 1.

SECT. IV *Of Self-denial, Humility, Mortification and Patience.*

Do I endeavour to *please all Men for their good*, and not make it my Business to *please myself*, Rom. xvi. 2? but to *become all to all that I may win their Souls*, so far as is consistent with being true and faithful to *Christ*? 1 Cor. x. 23. and 9. 19, 22.

Do I behave myself before Men, *not as a Lord over God's Heritage*, but as a *Servant of all for Christ's Sake*? and do I treat them *not as having Dominion over their Faith but as a helper of their Joy*? 2 Cor. iv. 5. and i. 24.

Am I *gentle and patient towards all Men, in Meekness instructing those that oppose themselves*? 2 Tim. ii. 24, 25.

Do I *approve myself in all Things as a Minister of God*; in much Patience pos-
sessing

sessing my own Soul, and having the Government of my own Spirit? 2 Cor. vi. 4.

Do I, as a *Man of God* whose Business is heavenly, *flee from Covetousness* and the inordinate Desire of Gain, *not seeking my own Things so much as the Things of Christ*? 1 Tim. vi. 10, 11. But *having Food and Raiment, have I learnt therewith to be content*? 1 Tim. vi. 8.

Am I willing to *endure Hardness as a good Soldier of Jesus Christ*? 2 Tim. ii. 3. and am I learning to *bear whatsoever God calls me to for the Sake of the Elect, that they may obtain Salvation with eternal Glory*? 2 Tim. ii. 3, 10.

Am I more and more fortify'd against *Shame and Suffering for the Testimony of my Lord Jesus Christ*? 2 Tim. i. 8, 12.

Am I willing to *spend myself and be spent* for the good of the People, or even to be *offer'd up as a Sacrifice for the Service of their Faith*? and do I count nothing dear to me that I may fulfil the *Ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus*? Phil. ii. 17. 2 Cor. xii. 15. Acts xx. 24.

SECT.

SECT. V. *Of Conversation.*

Is it my constant endeavour to *hold fast the true Faith and a good Conscience together, lest making Shipwreck of one, I should lose the other also?* 1 Tim. i. 19.

Do I walk so as to be an *Example of Christians in Word, in Conversation, in Charity, in Faith, in Purity?* 1 Tim. iv. 12. *that in all Things I may shew myself a Pattern of good Works?* Tit. ii. 7.

Do I endeavour to walk uprightly amongst Men, and *do nothing by Partiality?* 1 Tim. v. 21.

Is my Conversation Savory and Religious, so as to *minister Edification to the Hearers?* Ephes. iv. 29.

Do I *shun youthful Lusts, and follow after Righteousness, Faith, Charity and Peace with all them that call on the Lord out of a pure Heart?* 2 Tim. ii. 22.

Do I avoid as much as possible the various Temptations to which I may be exposed, and watch against the Times, and Places, and Company which are dangerous?

Do

Preachers to ask themselves. 25

Do I practise the Christian Duty of Love and Charity to those who differ from me in Opinion, and even *blefs and pray for them that are my Enemies?* Rom. xii. 14. and xiv. 1.

Do I behave myself *blameless as a Steward of God, not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to Wine, nor filthy Lucre, no Brawler, no Striker; a Lover of Hospitality, a Lover of good Men, sober, just, holy, temperate?* Tit. i. 7, 8.

Do I daily endeavour to give no Offence in any thing, that the Ministry be not blamed? 2 Cor. vi. 3.

Do I watch over myself in all Times and Places and Conversations, so as to do and to bear what is required of me, to make a full Proof of my Ministry, and to adorn the Doctrine of God my Saviour? 2 Tim. iv. 5. Tit. ii. 10.

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V. Quest-

V. Questions by which young Persons may be taught to examine themselves, both as to their Christian Knowledge, and their Spiritual State.

WHAT has been my Education from my younger Years? What have been my Advantages or Disadvantages as to the Things of Religion?

What good Use have I made of the Advantages I have enjoy'd, and what have I learnt by them?

How have I been inabled to overcome the Disadvantages that I have labour'd under?

What Sense have I had of the Sin of my Nature, or the Evil that dwells in me, as well as of actual Sins?

What is the Danger and the Misery of a sinful State?

Can I remember how I came to this awakening Sense of Sin? Whether by any special Providences, Sickness, Dangers or Troubles, by Reading, by Preach-

Preaching, or by Conversation, or Instruction of Friends?

What Sense have I of my own Insufficiency, or Inability to save myself?

Here will come in the Knowledge of the *Insufficiency of our own Works to justify us before God, and our Insufficiency of ourselves to change our own sinful Natures to Holiness*, and to subdue all our indwelling Sins.

What way do I hope to be saved?

Who is the appointed Saviour?

Here *the Name of Christ* will necessarily come in.

Can I remember how I first came by the Knowledge of *Jesus Christ*?

Who is *Jesus Christ* the Lord?

What has he done in order to our Salvation? and of what use are his Sufferings?

What are the several Benefits or Blessings which I stand in need of, and which I hope to receive thro' *Jesus Christ*?

Here will come in *Pardon of Sin, the Justification of our Persons, our Adoption, our Sanctification, &c.*

How am I to be made Partaker of

28 V. *Questions for young Christians*
these Benefits of *Christ*? or what must I
do that I may be saved?

Here the Answer will be, perhaps,
Prayer to God, Hearing or Reading his
Word, Faith in Jesus Christ, Repen-
tance of all our past Sins, with a religi-
ous Care to practise all the Duties of
Holiness.

Do I constantly pray to God in secret?

How long since I have begun and
continued the Practice? and how has it
been interrupted or neglected?

Do I humbly wait for Answers of
Prayer? or only pronounce a Prayer be-
fore God as a daily Task?

Do I make the Throne of Grace my
constant Refuge in every Difficulty, Dan-
ger and Trouble, in the Things of this
Life, as well as the Life to come?

Do I attend upon Reading or Hearing
the Word of God and good Books?

Do I always think over again and re-
collect what I have heard, that I may
fix it in my Memory, and impress it more
upon my Heart?

Do I make it my Business to pray over
the Things which I hear or read, and so

to

to try their Knowledge, &c. 29

to profit by Sermons and by Reading?

Here the next Enquiry will be about *Repentance toward God, and Faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.*

What is Faith or Believing in *Christ*?

Here the Answer will be according to the Instructions that Persons have had, or according to the various Expressions in the Word of God. This Faith in *Christ* includes in it, or is expressed by, *coming to Christ that we may be saved, receiving of Christ as he is offer'd in the Gospel, or accepting of him under his various Characters and Offices, as Prophet, Priest, King, Example, an Head or Spring of Spiritual Life, &c. trusting in him, resigning ourselves to him, giving up our Souls into his Hands, committing ourselves to him, that we may be accepted of God thro' his Obedience and Sufferings, and sanctify'd by his Grace, and preserved to his Kingdom of Glory: in all which the young Christian may examine himself, whether he has received Christ by Faith?*

What is Repentance toward God? and am I a true Penitent for my Sins?

C 3 What

30 V. Questions for young Christians

What are the Signs or Evidences, or the Effects of true Faith and sincere Repentance?

Now under these Signs or Effects of Faith and Repentance, will come in the various Christian Vertues or Graces, viz. Love to God, Love to our Lord Jesus Christ, Love to all the Saints, Shame and Sorrow and Self-abbhorrence because of Sin, a Hatred of all Sin, an holy Fear to displease God, Zeal for God and for Jesus Christ in the World, a Desire to please God in all Things, and to practise every Duty both towards God and Men, sincere Delight in the Ways and Worship of God, Desires and Endeavours after universal Holiness in Heart and Life, Submission to the Will of God in Life and Death, and a humble Hope of Salvation.

Have I any reasonable Ground to hope that these Christian Vertues or Graces are wrought in me? Have I found the Exercise of them on proper Occasions?

Or whence do I hope to attain them, or any further Degrees of them?

Here will come in the Doctrine of the Spirit of God and his Operations. How

to try their Knowledge, &c. 31

How must I obtain the Influences or Aids of this Spirit?

Does not the Scripture say, *A Man must be born again, if he would enter into the Kingdom of Heaven?* What is this being born again, or *Regeneration?*

Here perhaps, this may be described by other Expressions and Metaphors of Scripture, such as *being converted unto God, being new created unto Christ Jesus unto good Works, being raised again from the Dead, or dying to Sin and living to Righteousness*; all which denote a great and general Change made in the Soul.

What Evidences have I that I am born again, or that I have had such a Change wrought upon me? What difference can I find betwixt what I once was, and what I now am? Whether my Thoughts and Desires, my chief Hopes, Wishes and Delights, are the same that ever they were? Or whether I find any Change in the Temper of my Mind from Sin to Holiness?

Note here, such a Change will commonly be less apparent in those who have enjoy'd a religious Education from their Childhood. What

32 V. *Questions for young Christians*

What are my present chief Desires and Purposes and Holy Resolutions? Or what is and shall be the chief Aim, End and Design of my Life?

Have I a settled Bent and Bias of Soul, to hate and avoid every Sin, and to follow after God and Godliness, according to the Rules of the Gospel?

Note, This is a better Evidence of *true Conversion*, than any passionate Efforts or Sensations either of *Love, Grief* or *Joy*.

Am I able of myself to fulfil these Purposes, and to persevere in them, or how shall I be made able?

What is my Duty then in order to this happy End?

Here *Watchfulness and Prayer to God, Trust and Dependence on Christ, or the Holy Spirit*, will come in.

Have I in any Instances been inabled to suppress my sinful Inclinations, my irregular Passions, and to resist the Temptations of Sin which I have met with in the World?

In all these religious Exercises in secret and in publick, what Help have I had

had from any particular Incidents of Life, from any Providences of God toward myself or towards others?

Have any particular Sermons, occasional Discourses, Texts of Scripture, viz. Commands, Threat'nings, Promises, Reproofs, Examples, &c. been of any especial Use to me? and what are those Texts of Scripture that have been made so useful to my own special Occasions?

What have been the evident good Effects, and particular Influences of any of these Things upon me? And have I endeavour'd to preserve and improve them? Have they been vanishing or lasting?

VI. Questions relating to Baptism, the Lord's Supper, and Fellowship with a Christian Church.

HAVE I been baptized in my Infancy?

What is the Design of Baptism in Infancy? What

34 VI. *Questions relating to*

What Blessings are represented by this washing with Water, in the Name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost?

What solemn Engagements do I lie under hereby?

Am I now willing humbly to confirm what was done in my Infancy? *i. e.* do I give my self up to be saved in this way, by the Grace and Mercy of God the Father, by the Mediation and atoning Sacrifice of *Jesus Christ* his Son, and by the Aids or Operations of the Blessed Spirit, and to profess this Religion?

Do I humbly lay hold of these promised Blessings of the Covenant of Grace for myself? And do I lay myself under these Engagements to practise the *Christian* Duties, thro' the Assistance of Divine Grace?

Or, if I have not been baptized in my Infancy, am I now desirous of *Christian* Baptism?

Do I humbly desire the Benefits or Blessings that are represented thereby?

Am I willing to devote myself to God in this appointed Seal of his Covenant?
Am

Am I willing to lay myself under solemn Engagements to fulfil the Duties of Christianity to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, trusting in the Aids of Divine Grace?

What is the Lord's Supper?

What do the Bread and Wine in it signify?

What does my eating the Bread and drinking the Wine, mean and design?

What are the special Benefits which are hereby represented? and do I humbly and thankfully accept them?

And what are the *Christian* Duties to which I am hereby engaged? and do I desire, and will I endeavour to fulfil them?

What is Church-Fellowship, or joining in the Communion of a *Christian* Church?

What are the Benefits or Advantages that I may hope for, or obtain hereby?

What are the *Christian* Duties that I oblige myself to, by joining myself to such a Society of *Christians*?

Are

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Are my Desires and Designs sincere
in all these Enquiries, and in my En-
gagements to walk with God accord-
ing to the Rule of his Gospel, till he
shall please to call me by Death to a
better World?

THE END.

